

09/688,203
NEC00P264-ks

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REMARKS

Applicant gratefully acknowledges Examiner Brewster for taking time from his busy schedule to conduct a telephone interview with Applicant's representative on September 10, 2003, and again on September 12, 2003. During the first telephone interview, the Examiner explained that a new reference, US Patent 5,943,262 to Choi, seems to read directly on claims 1-6 and 13.

Applicant also gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's very helpful suggestion that these claims might be allowable if additional clarification were added to claim 1. Applicant believes that this claim has been accordingly clarified by this Amendment.

It is noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

Claims 1-6 and 13-24 are all of the claims pending in the present Application. Claims 1-4 and 13 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,265,739 to Yaegashi et al. Claims 5 and 6 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Yaegashi, further in view of US Patent 5,824,584 to Chen et al.

FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that claims 1-6 and 13-24, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

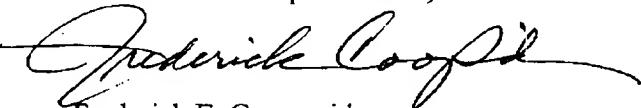
Respectfully Submitted,

Date: 9/22/03Frederick E. Cooperrider
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CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION

I certify that I transmitted via facsimile to (703) 305-3432 this Supplemental Amendment Under 37 CFR §1.111 to Examiner William M. Brewster on September 22, 2003.

Frederick E. Cooperrider
Reg. No. 36,769